

**REMARKS**

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,826,538 (Kalyan et al). The Office Action rejected claims 8-10 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kalyan et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,459,656 ("Fields et al."). Claim 4 is indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Without conceding to the propriety of the rejections on the merits, applicant in this reply is canceling claims 1-3, rewriting claim 4 into independent form, and incorporating into independent claims 8, 11 and 14, elements of claim 4 found to be allowable.

This communication is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and every effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance. A favorable Office Action is hereby earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that he call applicant's attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,



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